



State of Connecticut

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE
JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

*Testimony by Representative Laura Hoydick
Submitted to the Veterans' Affairs Committee*

***House Bill 5358, AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEASING OF MILITARY FACILITIES
February 23, 2016***

Co-Chairs Hennessy and Flexer, Vice-Chairs Gomes and Nicastro, Ranking Members Yaccarino and Martin, thank you for the opportunity to publically support House Bill 5358, An Act Concerning the Leasing of Military Facilities.

The Governor's First and Second Horse Guard militia units have undergone significant financial difficulty during recent years due to the decreasing amount of state aid and the inability to develop an income stream to allow the units to be self-sustaining. House Bill 5358 put forward by Adjutant General Martin of the National Guard is a positive step that would allow these long-standing units to financially influence their own destiny. The First Horse Guard is the oldest, organized in 1778 and chartered in 1788, continually active mounted Calvary unit in the United States and are an important part of Connecticut's military history. I applaud General Martin and the Veterans' Affairs Committee for forging a path of financial security and sustainability for these militia units.

I encourage passage of this proposed bill and thank you for your consideration.